

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Koji SHIMAZAWA et al.

Application No.: New US Application

Filed: August 5, 2003

Docket No.: 116794

For: EXCHANGE-COUPLED FILM, SPIN VALVE FILM, THIN FILM MAGNETIC
HEAD, MAGNETIC HEAD APPARATUS, AND MAGNETIC
RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the Non-English references are discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patent and patent application publication references are not attached.
- ☒ 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 10-17 are attached hereto.
- ☒ 5. Computer-generated English translations of the following Japanese Patent Publication have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 11-17.

- ☒ 6. References 18 and 9 correspond to each other. References 16 and 7 correspond to each other. References 17 and 8 correspond to each other. References 15 and 6 correspond to each other. References 14 and 5 correspond to each other. References 13 and 4 correspond to each other. References 12 and 3 correspond to each other. References 11 and 2 correspond to each other. References 10 and 1 correspond to each other.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 116794		APPLICATION NO. New US Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Koji SHIMAZAWA et al. FILING DATE August 5, 2003			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	6,395,388 B1	05/28/2002	Iwasaki et al.			
	2	6,338,899 B1	01/15/2002	Fukuzawa et al.			
	3	6,090,498	07/18/2000	Omata et al.			
	4	6,455,178 B1	09/24/2002	Fuke et al.			
	5	5,989,690	11/23/1999	Fujikata et al.			
	6	6,093,444	07/25/2000	Miyauchi et al.			
	7	5,784,225	07/21/1998	Saito et al.			
	8	5,422,571	06/06/1995	Gurney et al.			
	9	5,206,590	04/27/1993	Dieny et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	10	JP A 9-82524 (with abstract)	03/28/1997	Japan			
	11	JP A 2000-137906 (with abstract and translation)	05/16/2000	Japan			
	12	JP A 10-242544 (with abstract and translation)	09/11/1998	Japan			
	13	JP A 9-148132 (with abstract and translation)	06/06/1997	Japan			
	14	JP A 9-50611 (with abstract and translation)	02/18/1997	Japan			
	15	JP A 9-63021 (with abstract and translation)	03/07/1997	Japan			
	16	JP A 9-147325 (with abstract and translation)	06/06/1997	Japan			
	17	JP A 6-236527 (with abstract and translation)	08/23/1994	Japan			
	18	JP B2 8-21166	03/04/1996	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: August 5, 2003